

The Burning Bush

News and information about growing God's children at
Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

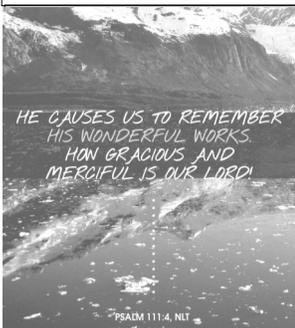
Odessa, Delaware

January 28, 2018

Today's
Hymns
886
505
487 491
WS 7

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We share a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person -- questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.



Today is the fourth Sunday after Epiphany

In Deuteronomy today God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words.

We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that trumps any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

- sundaysandseasons.com



Today's flowers are donated by Maxine and Jerry Campbell in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary



It is easy to donate altar flowers

Sign up for a Sunday of your choice at the desk near Fellowship Hall, put \$25 in one of the envelopes there (Make your check payable to Tree of Life LC.) with your name and date of the Sunday you are paying for, and place it in the offering plate. **After service, the flowers are yours to take and enjoy.**

Please leave the silver container and the vase - which belongs to the church - on the kitchen counter. Please also leave the vase, which belongs to the florist. You can take your flowers home in a church vase located in the lower cabinet to the left of the stove.

Let us pray for ... Robert and Judy Horensky, Deborah Atkinson, Jim Mowery, Craig Bailey, Paul Schuler, Ronald Rollerson, Frank Houghton, Dallas Dean, Gary Eberhard, Patrick Pileggi, Danny Matz, Danielle Fangman, Elizabeth Schreppler, Elizabeth Zaiser, Vernon Foraker, Bernadette Paine, for those who serve and have served in our military; disaster victims and victims of violence everywhere; and for discernment and the Spirit's guidance as we search for a permanent pastor.



Today is Pastor Merkel's final Sunday with us

We know you will want to give Pastor Merkel your personal thank-you for his two years of faithful service as our interim pastor. We thank him for his leadership and service. We have accomplished a lot under his caring guidance.

We consider him an important member of the Tree of Life Family, and hope that he will visit us from time to time.

Join him for a special fellowship time following service today to honor him, let him know what he has done for you and your family, and wish him and Susan God's blessing on his retirement.

Next Sunday we welcome Interim Pastor Greg Johnson

We thank our long-time friend Pastor Greg Johnson for stopping by last Sunday at the end of our Annual Meeting to get to know us better. He let us know in no uncertain terms that he is on our side in our quest to find a permanent pastor and he knows, from the fact that we have overcome so many struggles, that God is with us here.

Weekly financial update: *How are we doing with our weekly offerings?*

Our offering last Sunday totaled \$1,199.00. The average weekly offering for the month of December was \$3,150.00. To be able to call a full-time pastor, we need to average \$3,000/week, an amount we do not yet reach consistently. If you would like to reconsider your pledge amount for 2018, pledge forms are on the Ushers Table, or see Gene Zaiser, our treasurer.

Affirmation of Baptism: Today we welcome Doug and Lynda Giambra to Tree of Life

We rejoice that Doug and Lynda Giambra will affirm their baptism today as they are received into membership at Tree of Life. You can follow the rite, that follows the Hymn of the Day, by turning to page 234 in our worship book.

Mark Cilento elected to Church Council for a three-year term

At the Annual Congregational Meeting last week, we thanked **Scott Soucy** for his important service on council and voted **Mark Cilento** to Council for a term of three years.

A faithful, active and long-time member, Mark has served on Council before.

Coming up: *Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper* here on Feb. 13, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. *Ash Wednesday community service* on February 14 at St. George’s United Methodist Church, 109 Broad St., St. Georges.

Mark your calendar, volunteer, participate!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN. 28 10:30am Worship Service * Pastor Merkel’s final Sunday with us * Immigration Study Group	JAN. 29	JAN. 30	JAN. 31 6pm – 7:30pm Troop 505 Faith Formation	FEB. 1 7pm Worship and Music Comm.	FEB. 2	FEB. 3
FEB 4 10:30am Worship Service	FEB. 5	FEB. 6 10am Grocery sorting 6:30pm Council meeting	FEB. 7 6pm – 7:30pm Troop 505 Faith Formation	FEB. 8	FEB.9	FEB. 10

Serving today....

Presiding and preaching: Michael Merkel

Musician: Duane Dillard

Usher: Bill Glass

Acolyte: E.J. Kruah

Worship Assistant: Jim Pileggi

Communion Assistant: Jean Mullen

Altar Guild: Maxine Campbell

Offering Counter: Tim Lintz

Nursery: Volunteer

Fellowship: Carolyn Lewis



Dust Busters: Cilento & Collet families

Altar Flowers: Dot Schreppler

Office Manager: Jean Mullen

Worship Folder: Gail Russell

Burning Bush: Pam Nichols

The Leaflet: Donna Parks

Webmaster: Jeff Russell

Facebook: Scott Soucy and Jean Mullen

Troop 505 - Faith Formation:

Pam Nichols, Joanne Letwinch and parents



Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

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